Thereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on Tanuary 26, 2009

<u>PATENT</u>

Attorney Docket No.: 16869Y-146900US

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Jeanette Olivera

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No. 1722

Mika Mizutani et al.

Examiner: Michael R. Vaughan

Application No.: 10/540,768

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2131

Filed: December 16, 2005

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

For: NETWORK DEVICE, NETWORK

SYSTEM, AND GROUP MANAGEMENT METHOD

Customer No.: 20350

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 28, 2008, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

An Appendix including a clean copy of the claims is attached following page 13 of this paper.